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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Umemoto
Application No. 09/781,278
Filed: February 13, 2001
Attorney Docket No. Q63079

DECISION GRANTING
PETITION

This is a decision on the petition, filed on July 20, 2001 for the above-identified application, in effect requesting that the application, including Figures 1A and 1C, be accorded the filing date of February 13, 2001.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application was filed on February 13, 2001. On May 24, 2001, the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) mailed a Notice of Omitted Items in a Nonprovisional Application ("Notice"), stating that the application had been accorded a filing date, and advising Applicant that Figures 1A and 1C described in the specification appeared to have been omitted from the filed application.

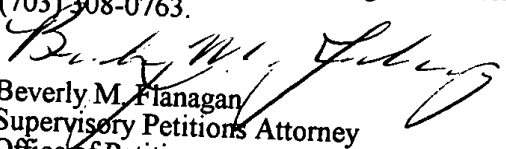
In response, the present petition was filed wherein Petitioner contends that the allegedly omitted figures were filed with the other application papers on February 13, 2001. The petition also encloses a "copy" of the sheet of drawings, allegedly filed on February 13, 2001, which contains Figures 1A-1C and 2.¹

The sheet of drawings containing Figures 1A, 1B, 1C and 2, filed on February 13, 2001, has been located in the Office file for this application. The petition is thus granted. The May 24, 2001 Notice is hereby withdrawn. The \$130 petition fee has been refunded to Petitioner.

In addition, the Office acknowledges receipt of a sheet of formal drawings, and the priority document for claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. 119, both submitted with the present petition.

The application is being returned to OIPE for further processing with a filing date of February 13, 2001, using the 1 sheet of drawings filed on that date, and for correction of USPTO records to show that 1 sheet of drawings was present on filing.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to Petitions Attorney RC Tang at (703) 308-0763.


Beverly M. Flanagan
Supervisory Petitions Attorney
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for Patent Examination Policy

¹ All 4 drawings are on 1 sheet of paper. Thus, the 5/24/01 Notice erroneously stated that only Figures 1A and 1C were missing.